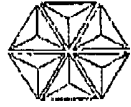


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF Yu et al.

APPLICATION NO: 10/643,411

EXAMINER: Binta Robinson

FILED: 8/19/2003

ART UNIT: 1625

FOR: Heterocyclic substituted 2-methyl-benzimidazole antiviral agents

MAIL STOP: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Reply and request for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.111

Sir:

We received the Office Action related to application 10/643,411 dated April 23, 2004 setting a three month shortened statutory response period ending July 23, 2004. In response to this Office Action, the applicants submit the following amendments and remarks and respectfully request reconsideration of the application.